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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 222  
By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to create a special joint committee to study methods for increasing the availability and utilization of home-and community-based long-term care services for the elderly in a wide range of settings, and the options for allocating public resources for such services.

WHEREAS, Tennessee should work toward a consumer-centered long-term care system for the elderly, where choices and options are available to maintain these citizens' independence, security, and dignity; and

WHEREAS, the projected increase in the elderly population demands that Tennessee find better ways of managing its long-term care resources; and

WHEREAS, the Departments of Health and Finance and Administration completed a report "Home and Community Based Long-Term Care as an Alternative to Nursing Home Care" as a result of Senate Joint Resolution 58 of the Ninety-Ninth General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the One Hundredth General Assembly wishes to further analyze the feasibility of increasing the utilization of Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) as an integral part of the continuum of care for the elderly; and

WHEREAS, "Home and Community Based Services" means those supportive services and systems which are provided to individuals to help maintain physical and social independence in the least restrictive environment; and

WHEREAS, the eight (8) basic types of home and community-based services are:

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(1) Living environments with supportive services (assisted care living facilities and homes for the aged);

(2) Personal care, homemaker and chore services;

(3) Adult day services;

(4) Congregate and home-delivered meals;

(5) Home care organizations;

(6) Rehabilitative care;

(7) Assisted transportation or mobility services; and

(8) Support services to caregivers, including hospice and respite care; and

WHEREAS, a significant portion of the TennCare budget currently pays for nursing facility care; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That there is hereby created a special joint committee to study methods for increasing the availability and utilization of home-and community-based long-term care services for the elderly in a wide range of settings, and the options for allocating public resources for such services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special joint committee shall be composed of three (3) members of the Senate General Welfare, Health and Human Resources Committee, two (2) members of the Senate Finance, Ways and Means Committee, three (3) members of the House Health and Human Resources Committee, and two (2) members of the House Finance, Ways and Means Committee to be appointed by the respective speakers. The Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall be ex officio members of this committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the 100th General Assembly shall remain

members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the General Assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and any other officers the committee deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special joint committee is encouraged to conduct at least one (1) public hearing in each of the three (3) grand divisions of the state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special joint committee shall work in consultation with the Department of Health and the Tennessee Commission on Aging.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special joint committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation or interim reports, to the 1998 session of the One-Hundredth General Assembly, by reporting to the House Health and Human Resources Committee, House Finance, Ways and Means Committee, Senate General Welfare, Health and Human Resources Committee, Senate Finance Ways and Means Committee and the TennCare Oversight Committee no later than February 1, 1998, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.